



Ontario Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities Dianne Cunningham chats with student nurses in the CARE program during her recent visit to announce a new grant for the program. From left to right are: Nazanin Khodadoust, Yan Hao, Beena Jacob, Shumirri Taruwona and Shohreh Bahrami.

## Program to help internationally-trained nurses work in Ontario gets more funding

The CARE (Creating Access to Regulated Employment) Program that assists internationally-trained nurses to work in Ontario has been given extended funding by the provincial government. Honorable Dianne Cunningham, Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities visited the college on April 29 to announce a new grant of \$475,000 that will assist in the preparation of more nurses to become qualified as registered nurses in Ontario through the CARE program.

The CARE program, which is delivered by George Brown College through Nursing in Continuing Education, Centennial College, and Ryerson University, has increased the success rate of internationally-educated nurses on the registration examination from 33 per cent

to 70 per cent. The program has been responsible for 94 new nurses working in Ontario over the past two years. "George Brown has been an important partner in CARE," Cunningham said.

In the program, nurses educated in other countries have the opportunity to update their knowledge and nursing practice skills related to the culture of nursing in Ontario. This review strengthens their professional knowledge in preparation for the provincial registration examination.

CARE student Nazanin Khodadoust says that nurse education in Ontario has more emphasis on psycho-social issues of patient care than her training in Iran, but there were many commonalities. "The programs are more or less the same," she says.

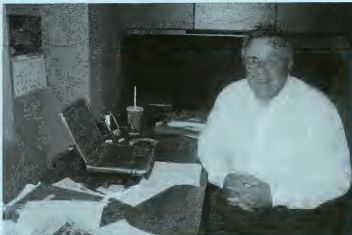
## College community will soon be connecting with *gbctoday.ca*

For those of you waiting to try out George Brown's new online portal *gbctoday.ca*, CIO Yves Hebert and newly appointed Project Manager John Price say the wait will soon be over. In fact, plans are for a limited pilot to run during the latter half of the summer semester.

When roll-out is complete users will enjoy a whole range of integrated online services through a single login. Right now a great deal of work is currently being done behind

the scenes on content management and integration between back-end and front-end functions. "It's a huge undertaking," says Hebert. "We have to make sure information from our enterprise systems is properly integrated and that all the security measures are in place."

"With *gbctoday.ca*, we are making sure that students will get better support and that we deliver a seamless flow of information to all our college associates," says Price.



George Brown CIO Yves Hebert says *gbctoday.ca* is on track for the fall semester.

## 20 Year Club 2003 Reception

The 25th annual reception to honour members of the 20 Year Club will be held on Thursday, May 22, 2003 at Siegfried's Dining Room, 300 Adelaide Street East from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The 20 Year Club is comprised of both current and retired employees who have worked full-time for the College for 20 years or more.

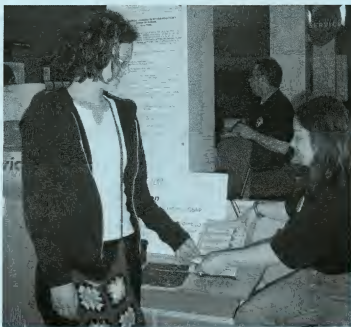
Employees who believe they have 20 years of full-time service and have not received an invitation, please call Sylvia Rossi at 415-5000 ext. 4473.

# Student ambassadors help make May class start-up a breeze

Child and Youth Worker student Ciaran McEvoy remembers the day more than two years ago when he first set foot at George Brown for classes. "It was intimidating. There was no one to help me. I was lost. Where was I supposed to go?" he says.

McEvoy, along with a team of fellow students, recently spent two weeks helping new students start classes in May and avoid that confused feeling.

Positioned in the main lobbies at the St. James and Casa Loma campuses – and wearing black golf shirts with the college's logo on them as well as huge "Ask me" buttons – they gave a warm welcome to people entering the building, helped students find their way around, walked them to classrooms of offices, and made sure they got the information they needed. They also checked with people waiting to speak with Financial Assistance or Registration staff to offer immediate answers if possible and ensure they weren't waiting for the wrong service.



Jamie McDonald (left) is given a number for a registration centre visit by student ambassador Alisha Marks in the St. James lobby in early May. McDonald, a George Brown Nursing graduate now working at St. Joseph's Hospital, dropped by the campus to register for a Continuing Education course.

These student ambassadors as they are called, may become a permanent feature at the start-up of each semester thanks to a co-operative effort on the part of the Registrar's Office, Financial Assistance and the Student Life Cycle (SLC) project. SLC implementation team leader Wayne Poirier says, "Students have told us they have waited in

line or wasted time waiting in the wrong lines."

The ambassadors' efforts significantly reduced waiting times for help, and allowed staff like St James Registration lead hand Jane Dietrich to spend more time helping the students that really needed it. "This was my favorite start-up ever," says Dietrich.

In addition to the ambassa-

dors, start-up signage was improved and a Financial Assistance staff member was positioned at the St. James lobby desk to help students with answers to simple questions. This eliminated the need for them to take a ticket and wait for an appointment when it was a small matter.

Student ambassador Sheldon Bartley says that many new students find it easier to approach a student than a college staff member with a request or question. "You want somebody you can relate to," he says. "Somebody that talks like you, and looks like you. To come in the door and see a student helping students, that's a good image."

Student ambassadors will be out in force again for September start-up – the biggest and busiest student intake of the year, and could be on hand to help at events throughout the year.

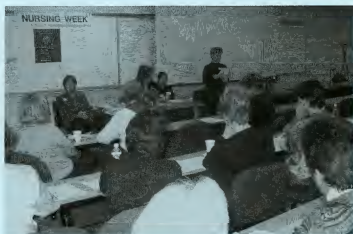
For more information about the Student Life Cycle project, call Brenda Pipitone at ext. 2614 or Wayne Poirier at ext. 2456, or e-mail at [slc@gbrown.on.ca](mailto:slc@gbrown.on.ca)

## George Brown and RAO co-host Nursing Week kick-off session

As a kickoff to Nursing Week, George Brown Centre for Nursing and the RAO (Registered Nurses Association of Ontario) co-hosted a presentation entitled "Healthy Work Environments: Implications for Nurse Educators" at St. James Campus. Rivie Sieberg, Director, George Brown Centre for Nursing was on hand to introduce Joan Almost, Research Coordinator for the

University of Western Ontario, who presented her views on the concept of healthy work environments. She explained how the concept can be applied to the college environment, and highlighted some of the major research that is being done by Canadian organizations in that area.

Almost was followed by Teresa Sarmiento, a Nurse and instructor at the University of Western Ontario who spoke



on the subject of "College Nurse Educators' Workplace Empowerment, Burnout and Job Satisfaction". The panel of experts also included George

Brown Nursing Professor Delynn Struyk and Nursing Professional Sue Bookey-Basset.

## International education specialist leading Professional Development Workshop

Dr. Idahlynn Karre recently visited George Brown to check out the facilities in preparation for her "Teaching Large Classes" session she will be facilitating on May 29 in the new Lecture Hall, Room 406, Centre for Financial Services Building at 290 Adelaide Street East. Dr. Karre is a recognized specialist in practicing the benefits of cooperative learning, active learning, and performance assessment in the college classroom, and will be applying her award winning presentation skills to this full-day professional development session for faculty and staff.

Suzanne Kavanagh, Coordinator Faculty of Business and Creative Arts says Dr. Karre's presentation promises to be an exciting and dynamic opportunity for faculty and staff. "We are so

lucky to have an expert of Idahlynn's calibre come and spend time with us. Her input will be invaluable in helping us in our core business – teaching." The session is part of ongoing Professional Development initiatives led by Bob Cox, Manager, Staff Development Centre.

Dr. Karre says she is thrilled with the 350-seat lecture hall because it allows her to facilitate a workshop in the environment it was meant for, but adds, "What faculty and staff learn here can be used for any size of classroom. What they can do in a large classroom, can be just as easily applied to a smaller one."

Kavanagh says the workshop represents "A wonderful opportunity for faculty and staff to make connections and celebrate success. It's got something for everyone."



Coordinator, Faculty of Business and Creative Arts Suzanne Kavanagh (left) with Dr. Idahlynn Karre at the Centre for Financial Services' new lecture hall.

"I've been so impressed by the dedication and passion for teaching and learning at George Brown," Karre adds. "This college is obviously committed to student success, student services and faculty and staff success. Bob Cox is a true international leader in professional development and really understands that the success of the college depends on these elements."

Breakfast and lunch is

being provided, and cocktails will be served at the end of the session.

Dr. Karre will also be conducting a Cooperative Learning Strategies in the Computer Lab session on May 30 in Room 366D, St. James Campus.

To find out more about Professional Development Workshops at George Brown, visit [www.gbrownc.on.ca/Admin/hr/src/](http://www.gbrownc.on.ca/Admin/hr/src/).

## George Brown hosting Toronto Youth Summit

On May 23 and 24, George Brown College, in partnership with the Toronto City Summit Alliance, will be hosting the Toronto Youth Summit at the new Centre for Financial Services Building located at 290 Adelaide Street East.

The Toronto Youth Summit is a unique opportunity for individuals between the ages of 15 and 30 who want to learn more about important community issues and how they can help make Toronto a better city to live in. The Summit will allow participants to express their opinions, and offer comments and suggestions to help develop a roadmap for the future on

issues we face in our urban centre. Suggestions and ideas resulting from the Toronto Youth Summit will be presented to the Toronto City Summit Alliance Steering Committee when they meet in June.

The one-and-a-half day event will cover such issues as: Homelessness/Affordable Housing, Youth Violence, Transportation, Community Support Services, Education, Getting a Job, Political Participation, Queer Issues, Institutional Discrimination, and the Arts, Music and Media in Toronto. Mayoral candidates will also be taking part in the discussions.

For background informa-

## Toronto Youth Summit May 23–24th, 2003



tion, the Toronto City Summit Alliance recently unveiled a report entitled "Enough Talk: An Action Plan for the Toronto Region". The report can be read at <http://www.torontocitysummit.ca>.

There is no cost for participating, and refreshments and light meals will be provided. To pre-register or to find out workshop details, please visit [www.georgebrown.ca/orientation/YouthSummit\\_2003.html](http://www.georgebrown.ca/orientation/YouthSummit_2003.html).

Or contact Toronto Youth Summit Liaison Yen Kha at 416-415-5000 ext. 4086, or email [youthsummit@gbrownc.on.ca](mailto:youthsummit@gbrownc.on.ca).

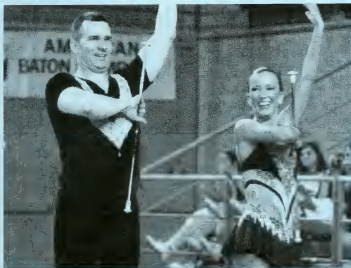
Program timing and location are as follows:

**Friday, May 23**  
5:30 to 7:00 pm  
Registration / Light Dinner

7:00 to 9:15 pm  
Keynote Speaker /  
Program Activities

**Saturday, May 24**  
8:00 to 9:00 am  
Check-In / Continental Breakfast  
9:00 to 5:00 pm

Program (Pre-registration  
online for sessions is encouraged)  
3:30 to 5:00 pm  
Panel discussion with  
mayoral candidates



## George Brown Fitness and Lifestyle Management student a world champion

Alison Winsor, a first year student with the Fitness and Lifestyle Management program (FLMP) and her partner Kevan Latrace are the first Canadians ever to win the World Baton Twirling Championships – Pairs Division. Alison and Kevan won the Gold Medal at the 2003 World's hosted in Marseille France. The Silver went to the pair from the USA and the Bronze to the Dutch. The USA, until this point, has never been defeated in this event at the World level. Alison and Kevan, who train with the Kings Destiny Club, are now retiring from the sport to engage in other pursuits. A champion student as well, Alison received first class honours in her first year with the FLMP.

## TTC Update

Continuing construction on King Street has led to the following changes to the 504 King streetcar service:

Track construction continues between Shaw and Church. Additional construction begins shortly on King Street between Church and River Streets.

Streetcars will divert via Queen Street between Shaw and River Streets. A 504 King bus replacement service will operate every 15 minutes every day from Queen and Broadview to Union Station, via Eastern Avenue and Front Street.



## Theatre students take final curtain call for the season

Rachel Cruwys, Steve Blaxall and the cast of the George Brown Theatre School are shown in a scene from *The Visit*. The play was part of the Spring Repertory program, which showcases the final productions of the school year.

# upcoming events

## Ballet Jorgen Dance Festival

May 22 and 23 (8:00 pm)

Isabel Bader Theatre, 93 Charles Street

(across from the Museum subway station)

Call Christine Heath at 416-415-5000 ext. 2196

## Free True Colors® Workshop

May 26, June 16 (6:30 to 9:30 pm)

St. James Campus, 200 King St. E., Room 461D

Call 416-415-2000 ext. 3444 and press 3 to register.

## Professional Development:

### Teaching Large Classes

May 29 (9:00 am to 4:00 pm)

Lecture Theatre, Room 406, Centre for Financial Services Building

### Cooperative Learning Strategies in the Computer Lab

May 30 (9:00 am to 4:00 pm)

Room 366D, St. James Campus

For information on all upcoming Professional Development sessions visit [www.gbrownc.on.ca/Admin/hr/sr/](http://www.gbrownc.on.ca/Admin/hr/sr/)

## Free Career Planning Workshop

June 9 (6:30 to 9:30 pm)

St. James Campus, 200 King St. E., Room 461D

Call 416-415-2000 ext. 3444 and press 1 to register.

## Applied Degree Information Session

June 11 (6:30 to 8:30 pm)

300 Adelaide St. E. Call Anne Kennedy at 416-415-5000 ext. 4476

## Hospitality & Tourism Discovery Days

June 11, July 16, August 13 (2:00 to 4:00 pm)

Take a complete tour of the facilities, see demonstrations by chef/instructors, etc. Call Sandra Silva at 416-415-5000 ext. 2239

## Convocation 2003

June 17 and 18 (11:00 am to 8:00 pm)

John W.H. Basset Theatre, Metro Toronto Convention Centre

225 Front St. W. Call 416-585-8000

## Safe Walk is here for the whole College Community

Contact us at [safewalk@gbrownc.on.ca](mailto:safewalk@gbrownc.on.ca) or call 416-415-5000 ext 2721. We take your safety seriously.

## In memoriam

Kulwant (Kay) Singh, a former George Brown Professor with the Interdisciplinary Studies Department passed away at North York General Hospital on May 4. Singh started with George Brown in 1967 and spent close to 30 years with the college in various teaching and administrative positions. Donations may be made to the ALS Society of Toronto, 265 Yorkland Blvd., Suite 300A, Toronto M2J 1S5.

# city college news

is a publication of the Marketing and Communications Department, George Brown College at 200 King St. East, Room 542E, Toronto, ON M5T 2T9  
Story Ideas?

Contact Rosalie Starkey at 416-415-5000 ext. 4842 or [rstarkey@gbrownc.on.ca](mailto:rstarkey@gbrownc.on.ca)

Editor: Joyce Lamb Writer: Denise Deveau

Contents copyright George Brown College, 2003.